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July 13, 2004

**Recipient:**

Examiner Robert B. Mondesi

**Company:**United States Patent and Trademark  
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**Sender:**

Christopher M. Humphrey

**Message:**In re: Roberts *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 3632

App'l No.: 09/973,318

Group Art Unit: 1653

Filed: October 9, 2001

Examiner: Mondesi, Robert B.

For: THIOESTER POLYMER DERIVATIVES AND METHOD OF MODIFYING  
THE N-TERMINUS OF A POLYPEPTIDE THEREWITH

Please see the attached Response to Restriction Requirement (2 pages) in reference to the above-identified patent application.

Number of Pages: (including cover page)

3

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REQUESTED BY:

Chris Humphrey

CLIENT/MATTER: 034848/234243

OPERATOR:

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PATENT

Attorney's Docket No. 034848/234243

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Roberts *et al.*  
Appl No.: 09/973,318  
Filed: October 9, 2001  
For: THIOESTER POLYMER DERIVATIVES AND METHOD OF MODIFYING THE  
N-TERMINUS OF A POLYPEPTIDE THEREWITH

Confirmation No.: 3632  
Group Art Unit: 1653  
Examiner: Mondesi, Robert B.

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 15, 2004, in which the Examiner has required restriction between Group I, namely Claims 1-32 and 76-84, Group II, namely Claims 33-54 and 84-97, and Group III, namely Claims 55-75. Applicants hereby provisionally elect with traverse to prosecute the claims of Group I (Claims 1-32 and 76-84, drawn to a thioester polymer derivative and a polymer conjugate of a molecule having a terminal -CH(W)-NH<sub>2</sub>) and expressly reserves the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the inventions in the remaining claims.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher M. Humphrey  
Registration No. 43,683

In re: Roberts *et al.*

Appl No.: 09/973,318

Filed: October 9, 2001

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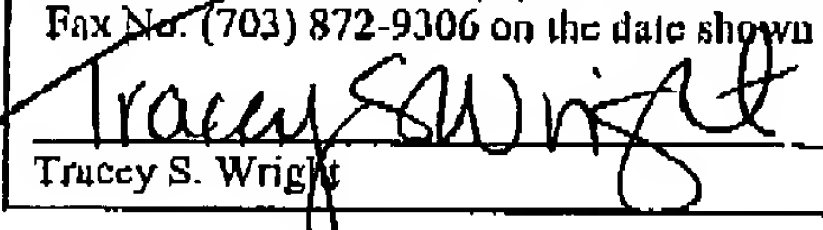
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